

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: LWIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES—
FEBRUARY 23, 2001

The minutes and revised agenda from the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) Advisory Committee conference call on Friday, February 23, 2001, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact Sherry Leahy, at (916) 653-6657 or James W. Scholl, Internal Technical Support Unit, at (916) 657-4610.

/S/ BILL BURKE
Chief

Attachments

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, February 23, 2001

Agenda

10:00 a.m.	Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics	Bill Burke, Workforce Investment Division (WID)
10:20 a.m.	Chief Deputy Director's Employment and Training Perspective	Samuel Rodriquez, Chief Deputy Director Employment Development Department
10:40 a.m.	Welfare-to-Work and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Plan Modification Process	Michael Evashenk, WID Jose Luis Marquez, Program Development and Management Division
10:50 a.m.	Under Expenditure of WIA funds	Bill Burke, WID
11:15 a.m.	Eligible Training Provider List and Job Training Automation System Implementation	Liz Clingman, WID
11:35 a.m.	April 10 Quarterly Meeting Agenda	Bill Burke, WID
11:45 a.m.	Planning for Future Quarterly Meeting	Jim Scholl, WID
Noon	Adjourn	

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA (LWIA) ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Friday, February 23, 2001

Welcome/Hot Topics—Bill Burke, Workforce Investment Division (WID)

- **Rapid Response**—The California Health and Human Services Agency (Agency) received the recommendations for Rapid Response funding. The response by Agency is expected in the near future. There was a concern that some LWIA staff may be laid-off due to the lack of funding. Agency staff will be advised of this situation.
- **State-Approved Local Training (SALT)**—The recommendations for SALT funding have been received by Agency. The response by Agency is expected in the near future.
- **Allocations**—The State has been advised that the next year Workforce Investment Act (WIA) allocations will be released in the middle of March 2001. In order to help the LWIAs to cope with this late information, the State offered to create rough allocation estimates for each LWIA. After further discussion it was agreed that each LWIA could use their current year allocation as the rough estimate.
- **WIA Expenditures**—Bill Burke asked each LWIA to forward to him any information they had on WIA expenditures level. This was in reference to the Department of Labor's (DOL) review of WIA under expenditures.
- **Incentive Policy**—There is a requirement to create a WIA incentive policy. The Employment Development Department (EDD) in concert with the State Workforce Investment Board (State Board) will establish a workgroup that will include the local LWIAs. This workgroup will look at some of the other states' WIA incentive policies. This workgroup will report through the State Board committee structure.
- **Performance Standards**—Negotiations of Performance Standards for the new year will begin the middle of March. The vast majority of the local areas have well exceeded the performance goals calculated to date.
- **Caregiver Training Initiative**—The purpose of the Caregiver Training Initiative (CTI) is to develop and implement proposals to recruit, train, and retain caregivers, such as Certified Nurse Assistants, Licensed Psychiatric Technicians, and other nursing and direct-care staff in the health care industry. On January 31, 2001, Governor Gray Davis announced awards to 12 regional partnerships totaling \$25 million. These projects will run until June 30, 2002, and serve approximately 5,000 individuals. The CTI funding consists of \$10 million of State General Fund

matching dollars for the federal Welfare-to-Work (WtW) Grant program and \$15 million of federal WIA funds. The WtW portion may be able to be extended beyond June 29, 2001. The State is working toward this goal but currently the WtW funds are good only to June 29, 2001. The staff from the Workforce Development Branch are in the process of negotiating final contracts with award recipients and expect to complete this task for all projects within the next several weeks.

Chief Deputy Director's Employment and Training Perceptive—Samuel Rodriquez, Employment Development Department (EDD)

Sam spent seven years in Washington, D.C., and is very familiar with the politics of the federal government and Congress. His vision is to develop a bipartisan approach that meets the needs of all of our federal partners, the Administration, Congress, DOL, and the General Accounting Office. In order to implement his WIA vision, Sam has requested a couple of off sites that have included all of the State partners including the highest level of the Governor's staff. Based on his direct conversation with congressional staff, Sam has learned that the future Employment and Training funding is dependent upon the upcoming congressional hearings. In order to promote a favorable outcome of these hearings, Sam is going to establish a partnership with the Texas Congressional delegation. Sam indicated that the Senate supports Employment and Training programs and will probably balance any adverse effects of the congressional hearing. Sam feels that it is very important to connect Labor Secretary Elaine Chao to the California Employment and Training community. Sam plans on taking an active role with the entire Employment and Training Community including meeting with the congressional delegation and State Board members. Additionally, am will be speaking to the LWIA Administrators at the April 10, 2001, Quarterly meeting in San Diego.

Welfare-to-Work (WtW) and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Plan Modification Process—Jose Luis Marquez, Program Development and Management Division; Michael Evashenk, WID

Concerning the WtW Plan Modification, Jose Luis Marquez indicated that recent federal legislation give states the opportunity to request an extension of the spending authority of the WtW funds to June 30, 2003. The DOL has indicated that an upcoming Training Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) will detail the process. The DOL has indicated that the State has to request an extension from DOL in concert with a State plan modification. The goal is to submit this State plan modification to DOL by June 1, 2001. In order to accomplish this goal, EDD will be asking the locals for a LWIA plan adjustment in accordance with the direction given in the TEGL. The anticipated due date for the LWIA plan would be May 1, 2001.

Concerning the WIA Plan Modification, Michael Evashenk indicated that EDD is working with the State Board to develop procedures to amend local plans. While the process is not complete, the State anticipates the process will be finalized in the near future. The WIA local plan modifications have similar timeframes as the WtW local plan process, and both will be due sometime in May 2001.

Under Expenditure of WIA Funds—Bill Burke, WID

The DOL is conducting a review of each State's WIA expenditure levels. Additionally, each state is to provide its region with detailed information for any reasons or circumstances that are causing expenditures to be less than 50 percent of the State's allocation. As of December 31, 2000, the California expenditure figures are as follows: Youth—22 percent, Adult—31 percent and Dislocated Worker formula—22 percent. The obligation amounts were somewhat higher but there was a concern that some LWIAs had not reported any obligations through December 31, 2000.

Some of the contributing factors to the level of expenditures are the new program approach to delivery, loss of experienced staff, new rules, competing funds, Youth Advisory Councils, change in Eligibility Requirements for Long-Term Unemployed, and a strong economy. Also, historically under the Job Training Partnership Act, expenditures rose substantially during the third and fourth quarters. Please send any local prospective directly to Bill Burke so that the State can incorporate it with the DOL process.

Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) and Job Training Automation (JTA) System Implementation—Liz Clingman, WID

Liz indicated that the ETPL would be on the EDD Web page by the end of February. It can be accessed at <http://www.edd.ca.gov/emptran.htm>.

The first of the three Subsequent Eligibility Workgroup meetings will take place in early March. An output from this workgroup will be a draft policy that will go to the State Board at their April 4 meeting.

The DOL has called to our attention the requirement for a statewide Youth Training Provider List. During March, EDD will be asking the LWIAs for information to help build the Youth Training Provider List.

Liz indicated that she and staff have met with the JTA programmers and developed a prioritized work-plan. The first three items are the LWIAs' ability to print forms, a client status list, and release of an entry screen for customer satisfaction. These three items should be completed in March. The final item, the calculation of performance, is very complex and should be completed in early April.

April 10 Quarterly Meeting Agenda—Bill Burke, WID

Items that were proposed for the agenda were the following: DOL's WIA expenditure review, Eligible Training Provider List, Subsequent Eligibility, JTA System Implementation, Allocations, Incentive Policy, Performance Negotiations, and Governor's discretionary funding process.

Planning for Future Quarterly Meeting—Jim Scholl, WID

The following were the purposed future meeting dates and locations:

- July 13, 2001, in the Los Angeles area
- October 5, 2001, in Sacramento
- January 4, 2002, in the Bay Area
- April 1, 2002, in San Diego in conjunction with the California Workforce Association Spring Conference